growing strength of the Pakistani Navy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) As far as Government are aware, during this year i.e. in 1984, only four missile boats acquired from China have been received by the Pakistani Navy. The Pakistani Navy are also understood to have plans for the acquisition of vessels and aircraft from various countries primarily the USA.

(d) The Indian Navy is being continuously strengthened and modernised so as to be able to meet any foreseeable threat to our maritime interests.

Presence of Super Powers in Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea

238. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV.
SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that presence of super powers and extra regional forces in the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea have increased alarmingly in the recent past;

(b) whether it is a fact that littoral countries are faced with a real threat from the hostile forces from the sea;

(c) whether it is also fact that the need for a strong Indian Navy as a deterent is felt now more than ever before; and

(d) if so, what masures Government have taken to build up a strong Indian Navy to face the danger of attack on Indian main land from the sea?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) The presence of super powers and extra regional forces in Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea has been increasing over the last decade.

(b) The presence of foriegn bases facilities in the Indian Ocean does constitute a possible threat to the security of the littoral countries and to the stability of the area.

(c) and (d) Government keeps a constant watch on the developments in the region and steps are continuously taken to safeguard our maritime security interests, *inter-alia* by means of strengthening and modernising of the Indian Navy.

Movement of Pakistani Troops Across J and K Border

239. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that concentration and mass movement of Pakistani troops and equipments across the borders along Jammu and Kashmir had been noticed towards the end of May, 1984; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and what steps have been taken to strengthen our borders?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) Recently some movement of Pak. troops and equipment across the Line of Control in J & K has come to the notice of Government.

(b) Government closely monitor all developments affecting our security and take appropriate measures to ensure adequate defence preparedness.

Elgin Textile Mill, Kanpur

240. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Elgin Textile Mill of Kanpur is incurring heavy losses;

(b) what is the amount of loss suffered by it during the last two years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Mill is employing workers in excess of its requirement; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to retrench excess workers or transfer such workers to other units?